

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 8, 2002 has been read and carefully considered and the present amendment submitted to make certain clarification to the claim language. Thus, Claims 1-7 as presented have been redrafted to respond to the Examiner's comments regarding formal matters, and are filed herewith as Claims 8-14, with original Claims 1-7 being canceled without prejudice.

In the aforementioned Office Action, the examiner indicated that the application as filed lacked an Abstract, and called for the submission of the same. Applicants advise in response, that the application as filed did contain an Abstract, and that the Abstract is located on Page 9 of the application. A copy of the Abstract as filed is attached as Exhibit A for the Examiner's review.

The page submitted by Applicants at filing corresponds to the face page of International Publication No. WO 00/42624. Applicants have prepared a retyped version of the English translation of the text of the as published application and submit the same herewith as a substitute Abstract, and entry and favorable consideration of the substitute Abstract is respectfully requested.

THE REJECTION BASED ON 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention and, specifically, on the basis that terms such as "conventional elements", "that is to say", "on the one hand" and the like are unclear. Claims 8-14, which correspond to claims 1-7 as redrafted, are believed to respond to these objections, and therefore, entry of the new claims and withdrawal of the ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is believed to be in order and is requested.

THE REJECTION BASED ON 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being unpatentable over Sanada, U.S. Patent No. 4,587,606. As set forth above, claims 1-8 have been cancelled without prejudice and new claims 9-16 submitted herewith. While the claims as amended impart improved clarity, they like the claims that they replace, clearly distinguish the cited reference. Therefore, the rejection as it may be applied against the claims as amended, is considered inapt, and is traversed.

Accordingly, Sanada discloses a high voltage transformer and rectifier arrangement. Sanada's transformer comprises a secondary winding, divided into a plurality of sections, around a primary winding of the air-core type and first and second diode groups disposed on substrates which surround

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the secondary winding.

Sanada also describes a transformer wherein there are a plurality of positive and negative voltage windings, but in the arrangement of the windings in the Sanada transformer (one group following the other) there is neither a discussion nor an illustration in any figure of the reference, of any insulating means to insulate the positive voltage windings from the negative voltage windings. The examiner refers to column 1, lines 15-16, for support of the position that insulation is present. At the passage in question, what is described is that, at the bridge consisting of rectifiers, the first and the second windings are dipped in an insulation oil in a tank. However, it is never stated or shown that this insulating means constitutes the insulating means between the positive and negative voltage windings. This is noteworthy, as in the Sanada device, the positive and negative windings follow one after the other, whereas in the transformer of the present application, the positive and negative windings are located in **two different and insulated** chambers, with the positive voltage windings arranged in one column and the negative voltage windings arranged in a different column, and the chambers themselves being insulated by solid insulating means.

Another advantage of the present invention over the invention described in Sanada is the fact that the point where all elements are connected (zero voltage level) is easily accessible in the present application as it is clearly and unambiguously shown in the figures. This is considered to be a particular advantage of the arrangement of the positive and negative voltage windings in the transformer of the instant invention, in two **different and isolated** columns.

Regarding original claim 3 (now Claim 10), Sanada neither describes nor depicts in any of figures 1, 2, or 3 of the patent, that low voltage input signals connections are or can be made on a zero voltage level; rather, in Sanada's transformer, these connections are made at the starting ends and finishing ends of the windings (Sanada, in column 3, lines 9-11 describes that "Leads are taken from respective winding start ends and winding finishing ends").

Sanada discloses a high voltage transformer with a **full-wave** rectifier arrangement whereas the present application "can be used in all those applications where a high kilovoltage supply is being required, both in **direct** and in **high or low frequency alternate current**" (see page 1, lines 6-9 of the present Specification).

In figure 2 of the present application it can be seen that a large amount of insulating means is saved:

"in horizontal planes": in each level of voltage there is no need to employ insulating means because all elements in each level are working at said same level: between all the components in the tank, namely the high voltage transforming means, the rectifiers, the filters, the resistive dividers, there is no need to

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use insulating means given that all these elements have the same voltage at the same distance from zero voltage level.

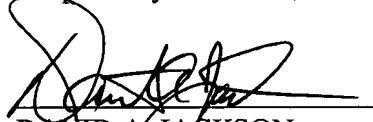
The advantageous consequence of the features of the invention as described above, is that distances between different elements of the transformer are reduced, which facilitates a reduction in the size of the tank, and in turn implies a reduction in the volume of oil, that leads to a significant reduction in the weight of the product (this fact is described in the present specification at pages 6-7).

Based on the ample distinctions between the disclosure of Sanada and the construction and operation of the device described therein, applicants submit that the elements of the invention particularly as set forth in Claims 8-14 herein, are not found in the reference in any way, so that Sanada does not serve as an anticipation of the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of Sanada and any rejection that might be based on it, is believed to be in order and is requested.

CONCLUSIONS

Applicants believe that the above amendments and remarks are fully and favorably responsive to the outstanding rejections and objections raised by the examiner. Accordingly, in view of the above and foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds of rejection and early allowance of the claims as amended, is believed to be in order and is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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ENCLOSURES: Exhibit A (Abstract as filed)
Version with markings to show changes made

